LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

THE ACADEMY EXHIBITION. "TO C. C.'S" CRITICISMS-THE PORTRAIT BY

MR. MAYNARD-YOUNG AND UNSEILLED ARTISTS NOT ENTITLED TO HONORS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: The manner and frequency of your correspondent "C. C.'s" allusions to the rejection of Mr. Maynard's portrait of Mr. Evarts because it was not thought by "one man" to be a good likeness, may possibly have led some of his too credulous readers to believe some great injustice was done that painter. While I cannot for a moment imagine the statement, within itself, to be of particular interest to any one, I will still fused because it was not thought worthy of acceptance -not specifically because it was a bad portrait. Had the letters of "C. C." given any one cause to believe him sagacious enough to make the contortion of facts subserve a logical purpose, conclusions as to his motives might be easily enough arrived at. As it is, however, I, at least, am at a less to know what interest he could expect a person of reasonable intelligence to find in a portrait that is not a portrait, unless indeed he, like the "ineffable celebrated in Punch, is "cullah blind," don't care about "naytchah," and finds beauty in the "picktchah" simply because it is devoid of such requisites as have been thought always indispensible to the production of a work of art.

Granting to your correspondent a motive of more sig nificance than the mere whim of the moment, his expres sions of epinion generally, with regard to pictures, would lead me to believe him an amazing parallel of the "ineffable youth" aforesaid, and as such peculiarly exceptionable natures are not, in the natural order of things, likely to make much impression upon male per sons, we may find little profit or interest in them, other than as psychological studies. I wish to say to such of your readers as were interested in the late exhibition of the Academy of Design, that if any undue sympathies had expression in the matter of its management, such sym pathies were certainly with the young artists, and went farther in that way than I could have warrant of judgment to follow. However much of promise may be in the pictures of the young gentlemen who are in the pecent, I am, stil, unaitle to see the propriety of making their performances the principal features of an exhibit tion until they shall have come to be individual expressions of nature. The works of many of our older artists may be uninteresting from certain points of view, and to my way of thinking are; but they are certainly, as nerisms of their masters into methods that are the legiti been given them to see in nature; and, in consequence, their works are in some way—nil, to persons in various stages of development—revelations, and means of devel-

opment.

The orations of the young gentlemen, the colleges are new sending out into the world in great numbers, however nigh-sennding and stirring they may be, are still or not haif so much worth as a few simple sentences from the livs of men who have turned the knowledge they received as boys, at second-hand, into the experiences of real life. It would not, of course, be pleasant for the boys to be told that what they know now must be wrought into their natures by hard experiences before it can be given out again in any form vital chough to are set the alternion of carnest men. Should some one put deling, July 5, 1877. WM. H. O'DONOVAN.

FIGURES THAT DEMAND EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune. The Police Commissioners have just transmitted to Judge Culver, Chalrman of the Law Con-mittee of the Society for the Prevention of Crime, a full reeating liquors in the city, distinguishing those selling with and those selling without a license. From these it appear venders, including regular hotel-keepers, druggists, and (including 112 helding receipts for money, but no li-censes) is 5,697. This is truly astounding. Five thouof this cuty have asked of the Board of Charities and Corhe law, in eached by below and hawk-place by it was at least it would seem, for these Commissioners have at made a report to the Round of Supervisors that they are collected to penalties or these. Seriely it is that they are collected to penalties or these. Seriely it is that the apparent of New-York made implicition for the millions of penalties incorred, but left uncedicated by its task of penalties incorred, but left uncedicated by its task of them. Service, where is the Sec. 3000 Because income their those figure tendors, at the very lowest figure, hould have paid before opining their shaped These incorrections of the District Attoriety, the Eve se Board, the Folice Justices, and the Come measurement of Charities and Correction for merceled in these datastics.

Sec. Fors. July 10, 1877.

WHY GIVE LEASEST

To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: The manner in which a clear-headed tenant can with businity work his way through an orthodex from bound lease is well shown in a case recently carried to law for decision. A Loly owning a straine to rent a pertion of it for the purpose of Equar selling \$2,506 being offered for the privilege. This offer was refused, the owner being strongly opposed to rentiag the property for that traffle. A few days later, application was unde by a (so-called) horness maker, and the place rented for \$1,000. The lease specified that the premises were to be used for the sale of hornesses, and the articles pertaining thereto, but for no other purposes, neither and the leasnt any privilege to sub-let without the

Owner's termission.

A lew days later found the biquer party of the first-named, safe leading his baron the covered corner, and the fors say, "There is no deception about this." The facts e prespety as stated, and the commutant is to find out here the justice and visit come in.

G. N. F. H. Ven-Tork, July 1, 1877.

GARRISON'S "HONDRABLE" CAREER.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sig: Your London correspondent, in his letter of June 28, in speaking of Wm. Lloyd Garrison's remarks at the recent breakfast tendered him in London, says: It is prinful to see a man whose career was until lately an honorable one telling a British audience that Prezi-dent Hayes has "yielded" to the South.

It would be a matter of interest to some of your readers to know the exact period to which Mr. Smalley refere though not necessarily agreeing with all his views upon carrent questions, it is difficult to conceive that sinte of mind which dares to impage the honor of the great Abolitionist. One of the rare men "who never swerved the truth to serve the hour," and whose utterances and judgments come weighted with the character and exam-But Tox Trincks cannot afferd to be unjust, if its London correspondent can, and, jealous for its fairness, l beg to record my protest against such impetations.

A CONSTANT READER. THE TAXATION OF GREENBACKS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: A letter from a correspondent, "E. S. B.," of Perry, Ohio, published in Saturday's Trinesa, complains that there are those in his vicinity who escape taxation by investing temporarily in " greenbacks." He

The plea in these transactions is that greenbacks are virtually Government bonds, and therefore not taxable, and vague reference is made to some court decision or authoritative instruction in defense of this ground.

This correspondent will find that the Act of Congress

passed June 30, 1864 (chap. 172, secs. 1 and 13), specifically exempts from State and municipal taxation U. S. bonds, coupons, National currency (notes of National banks), U. S. notes (greenbacks), Treasury notes, fractional notes, checks for money of authorized officers of the United States, certificates of indebtedness of the United States of the United States of the United States of the United States of the United St bonds, coupons, National currency (notes of National

States, certificates of deposit of the United States, stamps and other representatives of value, of whatever denomination, which have been or may be issued under any act of Congress. This last provision is ample enough to include bonds of the District of Columbia.

TAX.

Rese Fork, July 12, 1877.**

UNSOLD PUBLIC LANDS. GRAVE ERRORS IN RECENT STATEMENTS-LARGE OP-PORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE NORTH-

WEST. To the Editor of The Tribune. Six: Having read in your paper your report of an essay on "The Public Domain," by Major Powell, read before the National Academy of Sci ences at Washington quite recently, I was impressed with the remarkable statements there made regarding the quantity and agricultural value of the unsold publilands in the United States. First, he divides the area of the United States into two parts, which he designates as "bumid" and "arid," displaying the comparative

areas by colored charts. The humid portions, as he puts it, are those in which the rainfall is sufficient for the pur, poses of agriculture; the arid those where it is not. Ac cording to him the arid portions, excepting a narrow on the Pacific coast, comprise the land west of a line drawn north and south through the center of Minuesota, east of Nebraska, and near the centers of Kansas, the Indian Territory, and Texas. He says that " within this arid region there are localities of great fertility in valleys watered by streams, but the instances where the fertility depends directly upon the rainfall are exceedingly few, and of all the unsold public lands in the hund region the only pertions available for agriculture are a small proportion of the Munesota lands." The arid region he puts as in cluding 1,487,300 square miles; of this some 700,000 square miles he designates as the "pasturage" region, the remainder being divided among what he terms the mountain region, desert lands, bad lands, timber lands, cañon and lava region, and so on. Of the pasturage region he says that while in its present condition it is not entirely valueless, "it is entirely unfit for use as farming lands." He "culminates" by saying : "All the good public lands fit for settlement are sold. There is not left unsold in the whole United States of land which a poor man could turn into a farm enough to make one average county in Wisconsin." On the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad alone, within

the limits of the grant to that road and entirely within the imits of the Major's " arid" region, a section of country only opened to settlement within the past five year there is now a population of some 35,000 people and a ultivated area of at least 110,000 acres. Other parts of Western Minnesota are equally well populated, and in the same proportion are demonstrating the lertility of the

Now these facts go to prove that practical farmers, by farming ands," is in fact unexcelled for agricultural pur-poses; and if he is as wide of the mark in other locali-ties as in this section of his "arid" region, no reliance whatever can be placed upon any of his statements as to the agricultural value of any country. St. Paul, July 4, 1877.

James B. Power.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MINERS. To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: In a TRIBUNE editorial of this date. headed, "After hangtog-What?" I find the following

words, to which I would take exceptions, viz.: N shody who has seen the coal miner near at hand can wonder that the utter stagnation and misery of his life makes whisky or crime a relief for it. He lives in coal, and care als sait pork and lives like a pig.

It has been my pleasure to see the coal miner near at hand for the last eight years, and to associate with him ocially, politically, morally and intellectually, and I have seen no such state of things existing, generally us you would lead your readers to believe. On the con-trary, in all my associations with them. I have found the niners, as a general thing, men of intelligence, sobriety dustry, and law-abiding citizens-men who, by their ndustry and sobriety, have accumulated means where by they have been enabled to purchase homes, and give

by they saye been channel to parenase money, and give their coindren all the advantages of culture and re-finement. In in effect above the majority of our miners would be cultified to a place in the front rank of life.

I do not speak from hearsay, but an eight years' resi-dence in their midst. From seeins them in their dast begrinned garments to just criticism can be formed of their habits and purposes. True, an element has crept into their midst which like some noxions reptile, poisous

CUMULATIVE VOTING IN BUSINESS.

to the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: I would suggest the following as one of be headed off, viz: the adoption of the cumulative sys tem of voting in the election of directors, and other elective officers. This system has been established in all co poration elections in this state by the new Constitution, and is effective (in the opinion of the Attorney-General,) in corporations previously organized, as well as in those subsequently organized to the adoption of the Constitution. By this plan a respectably-sized minority can ob, tain a lootheid in the Board, and thereby act as a cheek mile a vo.er to select one person, say in a Board com-posed of 10 Directors for which one be can deposit 10 votes posed of 10 Directors, for which one becan deposit 10 yetes or he may divide it by giving five to each of two. This enables a minority of respectable mainlers to put one or majority from controlling absolutely the whole Board. It is reported that the investigating Committee of the Delaware and Hudson, on their late trip, discavened that the Company was paying 82 for powder to person in the Ring, who were adding the same powder to other persons at 81 60 per lieg. It would be an interesting study for flus same Investigating Committee to look into the matter of mechacity, and see how much more the King were paying the brain Manafacturing Company for become rives and union, machinery than the same could be farnished If an opportunity was given to the confidence by a face upon hid to come into competition with the Ring machine shop.

Wilkesburge, Pa., July 10, 1877.

POLITICIANS IN PENNSYLVANIA.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Siz: Unfortunately there are too many persons identified with the Republican party of this State who have been, and continue to be, believers in and advocates of a sentiment or policy promoteated during the early part of the administration of Andrew Jackson. There may be no other State in the Union where men hunger and thirst to the same degree after official posi-tion as in Pennsylvania. Real Civil Service reform is as obnoxious to many of them as would be a fountain of holy water to the sight of His Most Satanic Majesty. It can be endured as a rallying cry during a Presidential campaign, but to enforce it after the successful terminacampaign, but to enforce it after the successing termina than is not fully in accord with the cardinal destring of men who can never be recognized as statesmen, but selecting politicians. But notwithstanding the opinio-enformated by the majority, there can be found a gre-momber who dare openly amounce their fatta and as because to the new order of affairs. There are men who hereage to the new order of all airs. There are men will in nonlimited at the conting convention of the Repul can party, it will not be difficult for their opponents defeat; there are others who, if forced upon us intriguing managers, will almost smely be repediate. The independent voter can still be found among it meanings and valleys, as well as within the lim of the great city of this state.

Placedephia, Penn., July 2, 1877.

READER

POLIFICAL CRIMES NOT PUNISHED. To the Editor of the Tribune.

SIR: Apropos of the Chisolm and other political assassimations at the South, I wish to ask THE TERRUNE question in regard to that portion of the Fourteenth person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws," and "The Congress shall have power to calorce have," and "The Congress shall have power to enforce by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this acticle." It too above was not put into the Constitution for the express purpose of giving Congress power to logistate so as to seeme the combination of crumes like the operatorized to at the beginning of this letter, in case of non-action on the part of State or local authorities, for what purpose was it but there!

Hempstend, L. L. Juty 12, 1877.

HOME RULERS AND LIQUOR SELLING. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Siz: I have noticed with amusement and surprise the persistent mestatements of the London car espondent of The Tremese as regards Irish affairs in Parliament. In his last letter, he mays that the impority of the Irish members are opposed to the Sunday Closing Bill, as affecting Ireland. Permit me to say that this ball was first brought forward by a prominent Irish Nationalist, B. F. Smyth; that until this season the English

respondent refers, eighteen Home Rulers voted for the bill and only nine against is. Yours truly, FAIR PLAY.

New-York, July 14, 1877.

PLAIN WORDS FROM CELL NO. 74. THE OCCUPANT'S FIRST NIGHT IN LUDLOW STREET

To the Editor of The Tribune. Siz: It was on the morning of July 4 (our national day of freedom), that I read, with an interest peculiar to the occasion, your paper and its articles referring to this place of "quiet resort." And if you have no objection, and will give me room to speak over my own signature, I will endeavor to give you things as I find them, and abstain from personalities, with the ex. ception of what may refer to myself. There is no reason why, on my part, this should not be done, as I preferred

incarceration, and the proper course of justice afterwards-to clear me from the charge made; this as a matter of I was brought here on the eve of July 3, and landed in "Sky Parlor 74," without anything to cat or water to drink, etc. I think the Sheriff owes me seventy-five cents rebate for the first day - we will settle that in the fature. The mode of procedure was identical with that described by other writers in former articles. The furniture consisted of two iron bedsteads, mat tresses so badly used or abused that the straw shook on the floor when they were moved, two pieces of blankets, and one combination of dirt, ticking and stoffing that doubtless was intended for a pillow. It was early, and I was tired, so I cast myself on the couch, after usurping both mattresses, and congratulating myself that I was alone, and the door locked, so I had only myself to be afraid of. I must have dropped asleep, as I was suddenly aroused by an uproar in my cell, and screams of "I am no tief! I am no tief!" and a Hebrew was ferced into my company. As the new-comer was very drunk, I at once remon strated with the gentleman ushers, who brought him in. I was politely and forcibly requested to "shut up." The man was taken very sick during the night, and made so terrible a racket that I kicked on the door till one of the gentle-voiced ushers came and wanted to know what I wanted. A doctor was wanted, but the attendant said "the man might die for all b cared; no doctor could be got here." I concluded so, too so I attempted to sooth the sufferer by all the means in my power, and insinuated that if he did not stop his noise I would sit on him, and perhaps smother him Finally, I could stand it no longer, and in a fit of dos

ration gently laid the mattrass over him and need to sit on his head until morning. This soothout he was quiet, and I got about six winks of sleep be him: he was quiet, and I got about six winks of sleep before daylight.

At 6:30 n, m, we were turned out to wash and fix-up for breakfast. Descending to the first floor (which is hand-sonely paved with marble) and passing to one end of the certifor, I joined a group of men who were anxiously awaiting their turn to bathe at a stream, little larger than a lead pencil, running from a faucet. While waiting and wondering what each man was in here for, down came on our heads, without a word of warning, a shower of sweepings from the saliaries above. This was probably a huge joke by the "regulars" who were sweeping above, and it is a joke that is repeated each morning. I wondered that the men below took It so quietly, as most stepped back; only one or two awore under their breath, but none laughed, you may be sure. Before the day was out I found why so little apparent notice was taken of it. Yours truly. Yours truly.

Ludlow Street Jail, Cell No. 74, July 12, 1877.

SHAKESPEARE AS A NATURALIST To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: A Boston correspondent wishes some persen to prove that Shakespeare neard about the antelope's habits through intercourse with explorers. Any one who has read the life of Shakespeare will know how little ontention he kept with such men, and that theory must evidently be refuted. But why should not a deer o a stag weept. Such a thing should not be impossible: Sinkespeare may have gathered this phrase from per-sonal observation, for fox and deer hunting were al-ready greatly liked. Shakespeare makes use of a similar expression in Hamlet, it. 2:

"Why lot the stricken deer go weep, The hart ungalled play;"

Now, from the comparison between a deer and a young iag, in the above quotation, it is clear that Shakespear does not refer to an antelope, and it may be possible that he was the participator of a hunt, and witnessed the tions of one of these animals while expiring, which have given rise to the two expressions. Hunting, it id seem, had reached a high perfection at Shakes-e's time, and the passion of James I. (the Britishrod) for this sport is fold in history. Deer are already tioned in Deut. xiv. 5, and again in It Kings, iv. 23, yenison is mantioned in Gen. xxv. 28, and xxvii. 3. New-York, June 26, 1877.

FLOGGING IN THE SCHOOLS. RESTRAINTS UPON INFLICTORS OF PUNISHMENT-DANGER OF GIVING SUCH POWER TO TEACHERS. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Thanks, grateful thanks, in the name s away. "Whatsoever men sow that shall they reap s nowhere else more signally Blustrated than in our vernments are, and must be, maintained by human nishments; but in every case, except the single one in restion, such punishments are inflicted under some re-raining infloence, which, in theory at least, graduate the degree of punishment to the nature of the offense. Even the judge upon the bench, with all the power of the

true the judge upon the beam, which discretion, except take at his back, is not trusted with discretion, except within the distinct limit of the law, and must not by the arise of his official head add one lota to that burit in a parit of vengennee. But who shall thus weigh and limit he blows to be inflicted upon a definateless chief civen over to the unrestrained discretion of an impulsive tencher who is at once judge, jury, and executive?

The parent is supposed to be so far restrained by his mitural effection for the child as to insure a proper limitation; but if, as is unfortunately sometimes the case, it proves otherwise, the strong arm of the law instantly steps in and takes away from such a parent his discretion which he is unwarring to hold. Let there be, therefore, as you say, separate schools for the training and clocation of unruly children, as there are already institutions for performing a similar duty toward unruly men and women, and depend upon it the error of ruffians, rowdies, prize-fighters, and shoulder-hitters will sensibly diminush.

Con York June 18, 1877**.

New-York, June 18, 1877.

MINISTERS TRAINED FOR PAUPERISM.

To the Editor of The Tribune. SIR: In the "Topics of the Time" of Scrib ver. Dr. Holland thus writes:

ner, Dr. Holland thus writes:
Multitudes of ministers are actually trained for paupersism. In a certain notable theological school there are ministy young men who are now receiving aid. What method is it possible to pursue with these men so sure to destroy their independence and manliness as this? Now will you please to ask Dr. Holland what he ha to say about West Point and the entirely gratuitous edu ention annually furnished there to hundreds of cadets Have Grant, Sherman, and Sheridan been demoralized by

being absolute beneficiaries under the Government ! But why not ! It will be replied perhaps that the cade pays prospectively for his education by engaging to render a certain amount of service to the country. But so does the student for the ministry He pledges himself to serve the Church He pledges himself to serve the Church for life, and in the great majority of cases he redeems his pickage in full. He cannot look forward to a money-mating career, as the student in law or medicine can zerore aim in the certainty of a bure subsistence—a few exceptions uside. The average salary of a Christian munister in this country is not equal to that of a heutennal in the army. I doubt if there are a dozen of our first-class ministers who have not received aid in some shape during their studies, and been giral to get it.

Rochester, N.-Y., June 23, 1877.

DELTA.

LEAPING INTO THE HANDS OF THE POLICE. Capt, McCuliagh and Sergt, Haggerty, of the Seventeenth Precinct Police, were informed early esterday morning that the shutters of a rear window of the store of Charles Stark, at No. 134 Seventh st., had been forced. The Captain and Sergoant at once informed the proprietor, and concealed themselves in the front the proprietor, and concealed themselves in the front part of the store. About 2 o'clock a noise was heard at the rear window. The shutters were centry opened, and two nen leaped into the store. The burglars came toward the front of the store and the officers showed themselves. At sight of the efficers both burglars signed to have the store by the window at which shey had entered; but a shot from Capt. McCollagh's revolver caused them to submit to arrest. Both men were taken to the Pitth-street Police Station where they gave their names as Charles Clarke and John Elliott. The police believe that they had accomplices near with a trues.

POLICE TEARSFEES. The Police Commissioners made the follow-

ing transfers yesterday: Patroinian Adam Meyer, from Essex Market Court to the Twelfth Precinct; Patroinian Thomas Mulvey, from the First to the Twenty-seventh. for special duty; Sergeant Eugene T. Woodward, from

THE LAW NOW IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT-ITS PECULIAR CHARACTER—OBSOLETE ENGLISH STAT-UTES STILL IN OPERATION.

o the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: To the average citizen of a State the law which governs him is a mystery. To the citizen of this District it is a labyrinth. While to a lawyer, educated within the thirty years last past, it must be a wonder. On no other piece of the earth, of the same size, can there be found so much, and such a variety of law. I shall not attempt-what no one ever has an analysis of the law of this much-legislated for fraction of soil. A brief enumeration of its varieties and sources, with a glance at its mere bulk, will quite exhaust a paper of my limits.

First-We have the law paramount as enacted by Congress, which demands the first place, scattered through nineteen volumes of the Statutes at large, in each of which "The District of Columbia" is a prominent title. In 1873-'74, Congress adopted a revision of the State law of the United States, then in force, which, exclusive of the index, makes a volume 1.092 large pages. At this same session it adopted a revision of the Statutes, specially enacted for the District, which covers 149 pages, something in bulk of over one-seventh of the entire living body of Congressional legislation. In addition, there are many rovisions of the General Statutes applicable to the District, not embraced in this volume. This seems to show that the complaints of my former letters were groundless, and that Congress has not neglected the Whoever examines these Statutes, now made as shapely as the original odds and ends will permit, will fail to detect the slightest idea of system, comprehensive design or completeness, as a whole, as he will be unable to detect the presence of a fostering care of material interests such as inspired National legislation, or a design to build up a system of education common to the States.

Second-Perhaps, as the only other body that has ever legislated for the entire District, the acts of its own Legislature might be placed next in order. The law creating the District Government conferred general legislative powers, subject to the revision of Congress. The acts of the four sessions cover over two hundred pages, and those applicable to genera subjects evince an intelligent comprehension of the wants of the people, and the means of meeting them.

Third-The organic Act above referred to perpet uated the ordinances of the Corporations of Washington, Georgetown, and of the Long Court. The las digest of the laws of Washington form a compendious volume of about five hundred pages. The laws of Georgetown are less bulky, while in fact the Acts of the Long Court never took the form of ordinances, but were made from time to time as special orders, as each specific occasion arose. This enumeration covers all the direct legislation

Fourth-I come now to the indirect, promulgated before the existence of the District, and which rested upon its soil as a part of the State of Maryland. and as a portion of a Colony of Great Britain. As a portion of the people and territory of Maryland, the District began with the blessing and burden of all the law-Common, Statute, and Ecclesiastical-in force in the parent State at the separation from the Crown, and in this way may have acquired the Constitution of the Umted States-if any part of it re mained unannulled by the specific provision in reference to the District. All this mass of law the Act of Congress of February 27, 1801, continued in force in the District from that day, "until modified or repealed by Congress, or authority thereof," while the oft-quoted Act of February 21, 1871, in express terms extended the Constitution and laws of the United States to the District, so far as applicable. Let us glance back over our inheritance from Maryland, at the dreary tomes of black-letter and dingy paper, through quaint preambles and involved sentences, back through the old Bill of State Rights, the State Constitutions, to "An Assembly held at the City of St. Mary's, on the 15th day of May, Anno Domini 1692; and in the 4th year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord and Lady, William and Mary, by the Grace of God, etc." On our way, we may explore a Royal Charter of George III, by the same grace; done at "Westminster, on the 20th day of June, and the 8th of our Reign." The edition I quote from is Kilty's, two huge quartos, unpaged, of at least 2,000 pages, published in 1792. There is also before me Dorsey's Statutes, of three volumes, covering some 3,000 pages, issued in 1835, but

which we are obliged to consult for the Acts between 1801 and 1792. Since the cession of the District, the hand of the Maryland codifier has applied the test of fire to this whole mass, receining the gold and of parents, in the name of humanity, in the name of Christian civilization, for your excellent article on flogas rubbish: while the courts and lawyers of the District are still groping among these old acts, to find out as they may what was the Statutory commutative of a penalty originally imposed in unman factured tobacco, or in a more primitive currency, and kindred matters-a labor in which I have once or twice aided, or been aided, to perform. So far as the legislation of Congress could go, it has vitalized this decaying foliage of forgotten legislators beyond the power of becoming obsolete. We may not pause here. Our labors take as back in a dreary exploration of the Acts of the British Parliament, for the Statutes in force in Maryland prior to the severance of that Colony from the Crown. These I find in a late edition of "Alexander's British Statutes in Force in Maryland," covering about a thousand pages. This opens with certain paragraphs of the Magna-Charta of John Lackland, re-declared by Henry III, in the 37th year of his reign, with such awful imprecations.

Such is the briefest enumeration of the sources of our law, and a glance at it, as it now cumbers this little fragment of the earth's surface-a mere museum of the legal curiosities and the refuse legislation of the defunct centuries. And our people are still compelled to wear the cast-off garments, and go about in the worn-out and rejected sandals of forgotten generations, a condition of the law which can appreciated by a thoughtful lawyer versed in the history of his profession. He sees that we have the unchanged English Colonial Common and Statute Law of a century ago, with its catalogue of Common Law crimes; and should be told that by an Act of the Provincial Legislature, an important segment of Ecclesiastical Law was also adopted and is ours. He sees that lays repealed or obsolete in England and Maryland are still a part of the multiform variegated law of the District. That there is scarcely an old English writ which may not be enforced here, if counsel have the learning to frame and the courage to demand it. He needs further to be told that the jurisdiction of our Courts has been supplemented by Acts of Congress, with cognizance of numerous courses of action, penal and civil, arising in the Civil Service; of our ever-lengthening list of crunes, from the same source; that they have power to issue a mandamus to the heads of the Exeentive Departments, and review the decisions of the Court of Patents, and he can then form some idea of the field of legal and judicial labor which the District presents.

If, in his surprise at the condition of our law, he should be impressed that the resident Bar must, in a casure, be in fault for it, he should be advised that the members of the Bar have made many zealous efforts to secure an entire revision and reformation of the remedial law. I know that in this respect the Bar has not been remiss. I am not aware that in any instance it has ever been called upon for information, plan or suggestion. This is a delicate, not to say sore subject, and I think the lawyers of Washington feel some delicacy in approaching that angust body, the Exclusive Legislators. There is, however, in the history of the District, two memorable instances of attempts to reform the law, one embracing the whole body of the law, and the other the law of procedure in the Courts. By an act of Congress of March 3, 1855, a Commission was created "Te revise, simplify, digest, and codify the laws of said District; and also the rules and principles of practice, of pleading, of evidence, and conveyancing." This labor was very ably performed, and the result reported to Congress, dated November, 1857. The work of the Commission is before me in a beautiful volume, ad-

mirably indexed, of 609 pages, in orthodox sheep. Congress, with the wisdom which submits question of art to a committee of the whole House on the state of the Union, submitted this carefully prepared body of enlightened legislative labor to a popular vote, when, as might be anticipated, it was defeated. There was in it some provi sion restraining unyoked geese, something which offended the gamblers, and still some other thing disapproved of by the hackmen; and these enlightened and patriotic classes, the geese, the gamblers and hack-drivers of the Capital, as might be expected, were the more numerous on the count. The Code thus defeated, for some reason explicable only to those familiar with the ways of the Exclusive Legislators, was never heard of again. Congress,

went unyoked to the Tiber, ready to save the capital Among the early acts of the late District Legislature was one creating a new Commission to prepare a code of procedure. It was committed to five gentlemen of the District Bar, selected with care. Their work was faithfully and conscientiously performed, and now hes before me, in the form of a well-prepared Legislative Bill of 300 pages. As was required, it was finally read before the Judges of District Supreme Court, in presence of the Bar, who aided in its discussion. It was approved by that body, and reported. But the power which created the Commission had ceased. The report was

sent to Congress accompanying a memorial, and

Congress, like Dr. Hornbook, "sent her aff to her

doubtless disgusted with the stupidity of a people

reared and educated by itself, pronounced them un-

fit for self-government, and left them to Kitty's and

Alexander's statutes, to the charters of German

George, and Anjou John and Henry, and the geese

lang hame," where rests the code of 1857. The rule which governs me in these slight labors precludes comment upon the present administration of law in the District. The policy of selecting the Judges who dispense it from Bars wholly unacquainted with it, can now be properly estimated, without the least reflection on the gentlemen distinguished by the executive appointments. In this connection, however, it is due to Congress that I mention the special favor it extends to the District, in contrast with its general course. As the law now exists, no case can ordinarily be taken from any State Court or Circuit Court of the United States to the Supreme Court, unless the amount in controversy exceeds the sum of \$5,000; while all cases ensuing before our District Courts, where the amount exceeds the sum of \$1,000, may be reviewed there. This matter-liberal in one respect to us-in the present condition of the business in that Court, is ertainly detrimental to the people of the States. In the lack of confidence which most people feel in their own Courts, and the wish of the losing party to defer a final disposition, so many of our cases ar taken to that Court, that we occupy perhaps a sixth or seventh of its time.

I will venture some observations upon the future problem of the District, in my next letter. A. G. RIDDLE

Washington, D. C., July 13, 1877.

CUSTOM HOUSE ABUSES.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST MR. RUSSELL. A WAREHOUSE OWNER'S GRIEVANCES AGAINST THE

SUPERINTENDENT. The bonded warehouse owners are not all tisiled with the results of the Custom-House Investigadon. Henry J. Meyer for one is not satisfied. He is it extensive owner, who has been contending for several months, without success, against what he considers un fair treatment, and even persecution, at the hands of the Superintendent of Bonded Warehouses, and the Custom-House authorities generally. His bonded stores are at Nos. 384 to 386 West Eleventh-st., Nos. 54 to 58 Laight-st., Nos. 437 to 441 Greenwich-st., and Nos. 39 to 45 Vestry-st. The controversy has been mainly over the last two stores, which are in fact one vast substantial building, the Vestry-st. addition to the Green wich-st, store having been built a little over two years ago to meet an increased demand by importers for stor. age. Mr. Wood, the superintendent of these stores, who expressed the same views as Mr. Meyer, made the following statements yesterday in conversation with a TRIBUNE We ascribe all our troubles to the hostility of the

Superintendent of Warehouses, S. P. Russell, who imposed an extra stotekeeper, at an expense of \$150 a onth, on Mr. Meyer at these stores. No st. and No. 41 Vestry-st., because Mr. Meyer would not pay him \$300 for political purposes; and then the feeling was embittered by Mr. Meyer going before the Investigating Committee and disclosing the transactions with Mr. Russell. We had have made every effort to get the authorities at Washington to consider the case properly, but we met with every diconragement. The fact, is the officers here are so kult together, and are so well assisted by some of the sal o get a reply to our communications which, may never e seen by the Secretary of the Treasury himself. The abordinate officer at Washington, into whose hands our otter falls, communicates the contents to the officers nere, who immediately set to work to meet it. The Un-Secretary, perhaps, refers the matter to Collector Arthur, the latter to Seperintendant Russell, who reports adversely to Collector Aribur, who reports to Washington, and after two or three months we get a reply, but are a badly off as ever, and in the meantime have been compelled to pension a needless officer. They have done all they could to kill our business, which has been decreasing on account of the decline of imports. For a year we had only one storekeeper at the stores, till Mr. Meyer refused to pay Mr. Russell. The two entrances to the stores are ten or affect feet apart, and almost every day you can see the ridiculous sight of two storekeepers and one cartman straggling with four or five packages, each storekeeper looking after his one, two, or three packages, as the case may be. We get 20 cents a package, and as we are obliged to pay these store keepers \$5 a day each, it takes fifty packages to realize their wages, and some days we don't take in twenty, They take pains to make it disadvantageous for our cus-tomers to deat with us. If a merchant has a cargo of prunes in store with us, they will not allow him to take buyer to the goods, to show that they are in good condi-tion and a bargain-a thing that is permitted in ware-

nouses where the owner is in favor with Mr. Russell. The Investigating Committee was appointed with the view of correcting all abuses in the Custom House, and t has done much; but here is Superintendent Russell who admitted that he had collected large sums of money from bonded warehouse owners, both Republicans and Demo rats; against whom Mr. Meyer made the charge that he had paid Russell \$300 for getting the Laight-st, ware house in bond, a transaction Mr. Russell tried to explain by saying that the money was contributed to help carry the Connecticut State election, when carry the Connecticut State election, When it would have been supremely ridiculous and foolish for Mr. Meyer to have made a contribution for any such purpose. Then Mr. Meyer and others testified that Mr. Russell was never seen at their warehouses except to collect political assessments or fees; and more than that, John J. Osborn, Deputy Codlector of the Third Division, and Mr. Russell's superior officer, testified that a critet cierk could easily do the whole business of Mr. Russell's hierant. The plain statements Mr. Osborne made cost him his removal, but he was reinstated on the following Monday.

could easily do the whole business of Mr. Russell's hirreau. The plain statements Mr. Osborne made cost hum
his removal, but he was reinstated on the following
Monday.

I have been ten years in this business and know what
the usual dealings are between the warchouse owners
and the Custom Honse authorities. When Mr. Meyer
built the Langht-st., stores, Mr. Russell refused to bond
them and kept them several months under lock and key
with great loss to Mr. Meyer, who finally paid Mr. Russell
\$300, after which there was no difficulty. When the Vestry-st., stores were added to the Greenwich-st, stores
an application was made to have both
placed under one bond, but the authorities
returned a separate bond for the addition. Mr. Russell
said there must be two storekeepers, but Mr. Meyer, on
the strength of his knowledge of Custom House dealings
said that \$300 or \$400 wond prombily "fx n." to which
Mr. Russell assented, and the two stores were under one
storekeeper for over a year. Last February a second
storekeeper was sent, and when Mr. Meyer remonstrated
with Mr. Russell, he was told that he was
doing too much for one storekeeper, and must
have two. Mr. Meyer said there was even
less for one storekeeper to too that time.
Mr. Russell intimated if he allowed two storekeepers to remain a intile time they
could arrange matters satisfactorily, which was as
much as to say, pay the Stoo that you did not pay before, and it will be all right. Mr. Meyer made a statement of the circumstances by letter to Washington, and
since Abril, on the report of a Special Treasury Agent here,
was given time to have the stores placed under one bond,
with one storekeeper, on condition that an aperture for
communication be made in the partition brick wall. This
was done under the surveillance of extra officers, who
spen their time endeavoring to pick a flaw in our accounts.
But when we applied for our bond a letter came from
Collector Arthur stating that on additional facts the Seretary had revoked the previous permission, and we su

THE FASHIONS. MIDSUMMER STYLES. BONNETS AND HATS-FLOWERS AND OTHER ORNA MENTS - VEILS - BREAKFAST - CAPS - THE DANK CHEFF COLLABETTE-NEW FASHIONED LACES-BALL DRESSES - STOCKINGS, GARTERS - BOOTH AND SHOES-NEW JEWELRY. The ornaments of bonnets this season include flowers, fruit and vegetables. Creamy lilles, scarles

eacti, blood-red pomegranate blossoms, the blue and stak lotes flowers of Egypt, mingle with great luscious cher ries, grapes upon which the bloom yet lingers, shining blackberries, bits of parsley and long pale-green beans flanked by sorrel and red and white currants. Then there are other little hats adorned onlirely with strawberry vines, others with small flowers not set on "by rule and plummet," but massed like the purple depths of a bed of violets, or velvety pansies, and are called "oubline" There must be nothing stiff about such hats, or the effect is lost. Artistic taste can be shown in the blending of the white, manye and purple violets. A dainty caprice is shown in scarf strings that are fusioned to the back of the bonnet. These can be made of white dotted have trimmed all around with Valenciennes, or of lace with the ends tucked and trimmed, erèpe lisse of delicate shades, linen cambric trimmed with point or Valenciennes lace, Spanish lace, either black or creamblack not dotted with tilleul or gold, chenille gauze and black velvet. Some of the most elegant of the white and neutral tinted chip bonnets are imported without crowns, and

then the crowns are made of roses, the Jacque minot pink and red, yellow wild roses and tea-roses, mingled with those of yellowish pink and white. There are soft pleatings of crepe lisse justde the brim, of a tint to correspond with the roses. Some of the black bonnets are brilliant with gauzes and ribbons of Oriental colors, and the glancing breast of some bright tropical bird. Simpler bonne's for traveling and such purposes are shown in mixed brown and ceru in small checks and striped rough straws, trimmed with velvet to match the color of the dress; a plume of cock's feathers is added, and an ornament of smoked pearl in the shape of a buckle, or slide, or an arrow. A beautiful brown chip had brown vellow blessoms of the Souvenir de Malmaison, Plat Wattenn hats for country wear are lined with thin alk of pink or blue or yellow, and covered with soft full puffings of transparent organdle, crépe lisse, or finest lessly on knots of black veivet ribbon. Other coar straw toques are bound around with scarfs of grenadine, tissue, or erape, kept in place by a boquet of field flowers, cherries or clusters of grapes and riobon grasses. Dainty hats for garden and croquet parties and other out-of-door pleasures are made of the thinnest of white organdie, toque shape; there must be no lining to the crown, and against is rests clustered loops of the same silk of the bining and a bunch of curs in a rest of twigs, natural grasses, or a bunch of rich moss-roses and buds. The black and gray chip tallyho has its broad brim lined with black velvet and on side turned sharply up against the crown and fastened estrich feather winds gracefully around the broad, square crown and falls behind. Other hats are trimmed with vory white bunting arranged in scarfs, fastened in place by clusters of crimson roses. These are suitable for the

Beautiful scarf veils are of Damask silk ganze-some times called antique gauze; it is seen in delicate ivery, ream and pale yellow covered with anabesques. Other veils are dotted with yellow flossy dots as well as geld and straw-colored chemille. Pretty erépe lisse tong vells and straw-colored chemile. Pretty erépe lisse long velts are edged with Chaudilly lace. Cream and gray tissue veils are edged with the new colored torchon lace, or white lace with applique in blue, red, or white. There are other veils of tissue, manze, or lace, edged with the Pompa-iour lace embroidered in Oriental colors; musika dresses worn with this nort of veil are trimmed with the same kind of tace, and it is also seen in the new thack China crèpe fichus mateidug the brilliant embroidery upon them. Dainty little breakfast caps are profusely trimmed with torchon lace having an edge of blue, red, blue or yellow, and there are knots of ribben and long loops to match; other caps are controldered in colors of done in chain-stilet with colored cotton.

An accessory to the toilet is the new style of collarsta.

An accessory to the toilet is the new style of collarette called the " Danicheff." It is a delicate arrangement of tulle pleatings lying flat and others upright, separated by three folds of silk, effering the strongest possible con-trast—as for example, blue, tvory and coral pink, pome granate red, Lucifer red and Vesavé, Turkish blue, yellow and white. It is under round, and also pointed, and there are cuffs to correspond, to be wern either over by under the sleeves. An odd caprice of fashion appears in an imitation of the turbatis worn by the colored folk in the South, taking on the same colors with a difference in the fabric; this style of breakfast can is made of a Madras stik handkerchief or a square of some of the british striped slik gazzés, and is very becoming to a bright lounciet, or a blonde could safety adopt one in blue or rose-color stripes.

Soft white bareges and fine white coatings are clab orately trimmed with black velvet of the narrowest width laid on in many rows, and hows of valvet dotted about, and are again ornamented with quantities of rown, and delicate blue; tilled, pink and dark green olive-green, straw-color, and coral-red. There is also a in folicities composed or contrasts, evening dresses have never been more exquisite. Among other cost imported dresses is a clack velvet thain covered with into mether-of-pearl segment, sewn on in honey, and canches. The effect of the glowing randow that is in bearribable. The upper portion of this dress is blac-

Fashion conceptrates her extravagance not only in ince, but in stockings and garters. In Lislo thread stockings are as flimy and deficate as a cobweb. Silk stockings come in such tints as pale cream color, tilled, stockings come in such thits as pale cream color, thing, lemon, scarlet, pink, and blue. The designs embroidered upon them as caples of nature are works of art. The instep of one style of deficate blue is worked with a banch of strawberries, and round the leg a spiral of pale flowers is exquisitely embredgered; another is dotted with meas rosebuds in garlands. Black currants, with this creen twips, cherries, all manner of feathers ferns and flowers and vines find place in their natural colors upon these stockings, for which an enormous gives is maded and readily given. Some of the most clogant stockings have the tops trimmed with valencemens lace railles; he tween these is chapped the garter. Carters of James I, style are fasidonable. These are broad, with gold tranges and boint lace ends. They range in price from \$5. to \$5.0 a pair. Garter buckles are made of gold or dead silver, with polished silver mottoes or the initial or monogram in genus; and in the way of sourcears and betting gifts a pair of beautiful garters is purchased with the same consideration that is expended upon a pair of brocelets. A late bronssears contained garters to match the stockings; several pair were made of while velval, with filagree silver clasps; in the full rosette of lace nested a bunch of perfumed, waxy orange blossoms. A pair of gray velvet garters had stamped in blue letters the motto, "Bonisoif," &c. Garter buckles can be purchased in pairs, and attached to a variety of garters at pleasure. lemon, searlet, pink, and blue. The designs embroidered

The latest boot is made on the Spanish last, with velves sandal-straps, bows on each strap, and a cast-steel orns ment. A plain sandal boot has nine straps. Through these straps peep the cherries, the strawberries, or the roses on the stockings. The Louis XV, heel is recommended, as it does not throw the weight of the foot upon the toes; this heel is placed so far forward as to support the instep. The new Molière boot has this style of heel, and the boot represents a low tie shoe, having two erelet holes at the toe tied with a black satur ribben. Black satin slippers are trimmed with white Spanish lace, a bouquet of small flowers is placed on top. Another style of slipper has a veivet strap attached to the heel and fastened around the ankle, in front, with a bow of velvet Sea-shore and mountain boots, are made of stout Morecco, water-proof, and gost \$2 25. Black French kid boots are fashionably worn by children, decorated with colored bows of ribbons to match their sashes. Small boys toilet-shippers are red and blue, finished with black po-

tent-leather in appliqué.
The revival of bruncites has brought amber into fash ion again; it is both exquisitely clear and clouded in necklaces, beads, crosses and combs. Scarf-pins for luces and veils are very novel and beautiful; silver is the present caprice. Some styles are in dead silver enam-oled in brilliant colors. A gold flat pin has a dead gold back-ground, upon which in relief is the first bar of a popular old ballad, "Ever of thee," set to music. The bars and notes are in polished gold. As archery is one of the out-of-door amusements restored to fashiou, gold arrows are made in a variety of ways, from the simplest form to the costiliest, where each engraved fasher is studded with tiny diamonds. Another has a pinne of opals and head of blue cnamel. Again, there are others in imitation of the gorgeous peacock feather, set with gens, and another is enameled in Oriental colors; the head in polished red gold, and the plume in green gold. Vinalgreties are both unique and varied, representing quaint vases, autique flacons, dragons and all manner of grotesque shapes in silver, gold and crystal. More inexpensive desirus, varying from \$3.50 to \$5, made of crystal and silver, take the shape of a dagger and sheath, a son-gui with a fish in its bill, and in silvergit, a horsele hoof wound about with a winp-lash. Massive silk cable-cord girdles are worn about the waist instead of shate-laines, aithough claatelaines are still fashionable. bars and notes are in polished gold. As archery is one Mesurs. J. & C. Johnstone, A. T. Stewart & Co., Arnold

& Constable, Bloom Brothers and the Gorham Co. wis

Photographer: "Madam, why do you persist in moving so near the camera?" Old lady: "You see, I'm a little nigh-sighted, and I'm afeard I won't take a good pictur so far off."—[Harper's Bases.